

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-5, and 7-32 are pending. Claims 33, 35-36 and 38-45 are canceled without prejudice and applicant reserves the right to present the claims in a continuation application.

35 U.S.C. § 112 Rejections

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of claims 18-22 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph as not satisfying the enablement requirement. Claim 18 is directed to a method for reducing the incidence of ototoxicity in a patient selected from the group consisting of a human, a cat, and a dog undergoing treatment with a chemotherapeutic effective amount of an anti-tumor platinum-coordination compound, the method comprising administering to said patient an effective amount of an otoprotective agent comprising methionine, the protective agent being administered parenterally, orally, or topically to the round window membrane. The claim has been amended to add a comma between "orally" and "or topically to the round window membrane" to make it clear that the phrase "to the round window membrane" modifies topically only and does not modify parenterally or orally. Thus, a person of ordinary skill would have known that the claim meant there were three methods of administration: (1) parenterally, (2) orally, and (3) topically to the round window membrane and claims 18-22 satisfy the enablement requirement of 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph.

35 U.S.C. § 102 Rejection

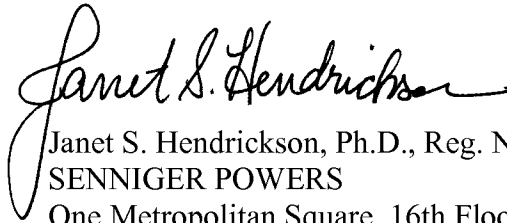
Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of claims 33, 35, 36, and 38-45 as being anticipated by Furuno et al. (U.S. Patent No. 3,962,429). Claims 33, 35, 36, and 38-45 are canceled and this rejection is moot.

CONCLUSION

Applicant submits that the present application is now in a condition for allowance and requests early allowance of the pending claims.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any under payment or credit any over payment to Deposit Account No. 19-1345.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Janet S. Hendrickson", with a stylized flourish at the end.

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